

Child Safety Policy

Dance Quest – Western Australia



1. Commitment to Child Safety

Dance Quest is committed to the safety, wellbeing, and empowerment of all children and young people. We maintain a zero-tolerance policy for child abuse and take all allegations and concerns seriously. Our priority is to foster a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for every participant.

This policy aligns with the **National Principles for Child Safe Organisations**, the **Children and Community Services Act 2004 (WA)**, and guidance from the **Commissioner for Children and Young People WA**.

2. Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to:

- Children and young people participating in Dance Quest
- Parents, carers, and guardians
- Adjudicators, event staff, volunteers, and contractors
- Affiliated organisations, dance schools, and studio representatives

3. Child Safety Code of Conduct

All individuals involved in Dance Quest must:

- Treat children with respect and dignity always
- Listen to children and value their opinions and needs
- Maintain appropriate physical and emotional boundaries
- Act in a professional and appropriate manner always
- Avoid any behaviour that could be perceived as grooming, favouritism, or inappropriate

4. Working with Children Checks

All adjudicators, staff, and volunteers must hold a current **WA Working with Children Check (WWC Check)**. Proof of a valid check must be provided prior to participation in the event. Records will be verified and stored securely by event organisers.

5. Adjudicators and Child Safety

a) Adjudicator Photography

- **Photographs of adjudicators are not to be shared publicly** (e.g., on social media, websites, or in printed programs) **unless written consent is given by the adjudicator**.
- Consent must be renewed each year.

- No photos may be used for promotional purposes without explicit approval from the individual adjudicator.

b) Social Media Guidelines

- **Direct messaging or contacting adjudicators via social media is strictly prohibited.**
- Adjudicators must not initiate or engage in any form of private communication with any participants online.
- **Adjudicators are required to have their personal social media accounts set to private** for the duration of their engagement with Dance Quest.

6. Child-Appropriate Costuming, Music, and Choreography

Dance Quest upholds the responsibility of promoting safe, age-appropriate artistic expression. To support this:

- All costumes must be suitable for the dancer's age and must not sexualise children or young performers.
- Music with **explicit lyrics, suggestive themes, or offensive content** is prohibited.
- Choreography must be age-appropriate and **must not include sexually suggestive or adult-themed movement.**
- Studios are responsible for screening their music, costuming, and choreography choices in line with child-safe principles.
- The Dance Quest team and/or adjudicators reserve the right to query or disqualify routines deemed inappropriate for a child-safe environment.

7. Reporting Concerns

Any concerns regarding child safety, misconduct, or breaches of this policy must be reported to the designated **Child Safety Officer**.

All reports are treated confidentially and will be actioned in line with Western Australian child protection obligations.

Child Safety Officer Contact:

Name: Breanne Lucas

Phone: 0422531991

Email: dancequestwa@gmail.com

If a child is in immediate danger, **call 000**.

8. Risk Management and Training

- All event staff and volunteers will complete child safety training prior to the event.
- Adjudicators will receive a pre-event briefing outlining Dance Quest's expectations and boundaries regarding interaction with minors.
- Risk assessments are carried out for all venues and activities to ensure physical and emotional safety for all participants.

9. Inclusion and Diversity

Dance Quest is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment for all children, regardless of cultural background, language, gender identity, or ability. Discrimination, bullying, or harassment in any form will not be tolerated.

10. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated in line with legal, regulatory, and best-practice child safety developments.

Last Reviewed: 16/5/2025

Next Review Due: 01/02/2026